

MALVERN BOROUGH  
ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL  
1 East First Avenue  
Malvern, PA 19355

July 30, 2020  
7:00 P.M.

1. CALL TO ORDER

PRESENT:

Helise Bichefsky, DO  
Brendan Phillips  
Brian Walker  
John Butow  
Zoe Warner, PhD

ABSENT:

John Meisel

Staff, Members of Borough Council, & Professionals Present:

Christopher Bashore, Borough Manager

2. MINUTES

A motion was made by Brendan Phillips, seconded by Helise Bichefsky, DO, and carried by a vote of 5-0, to approve the minutes from the meeting held on Thursday, June 25, 2020 as presented.

3. Vicki Laubach – Chair – West Vincent Twp Environmental Advisory Council

Vicki Laubach, Chair of the West Vincent Township Environmental Advisory Council, appeared before the Malvern Borough Environmental Advisory Council (EAC) in order to discuss the work that their Committee has done and to provide some assistance to the Malvern Borough EAC. Ms. Laubach stated that have been in existence since 2000 and they have completed a number of projects, including a clean energy campaign and a heritage tree program. Ms. Laubach also provided information on their efforts in the subdivision and land development process. Brian Walker noted that the Malvern Borough EAC has been discussing ideas on how to get the public more involved and is interested in learning what things have worked for her. Ms. Laubach stated that she has provided an EAC handbook to Brian Walker.

Brian Walker asked about the local EAC conference and if there were plans for 2020. Ms. Laubach stated that a group of northern Chester County EACs met last February to review projects that have been completed. Ms. Laubach noted that this group would like to meet again in 2020 and it will probably occur virtually in the fall.

Helise Bichefsky, DO, asked about the open space management plan related to subdivision and land development applications. Ms. Laubach noted that they prepared a greenway stewardship guide that she will provide to the Borough and it was designed to provide the steps to manage open space.

Zoe Warner, Ph.D., asked about the commercial/town center development in West Vincent Township. Ms. Laubach stated that West Vincent Township is primarily rural and suburban community, noting a number of farms are still in existence. Zoe Warner, Ph.D., asked if there was anything specific that their EAC focused on in the more populated areas. Ms. Laubach stated that they worked with area land planners to develop a village overlay district for the commercial areas. Zoe Warner, Ph.D., asked if Ready for 100 provides guidance for municipalities. Ms. Laubach stated that they do. Ms. Laubach recommended contacting the Phoneixville EAC due to the similarities to Malvern Borough.

Brendan Phillips asked about the projects that the West Vincent EAC worked on with their historical commission. Ms. Laubach stated that they worked together on a stream naming project.

Brian Walker volunteered to review the Ready for 100 information.

Helise Bichefsky, DO, asked about the level of community involvement. Ms. Laubach stated that they have a sizeable amount of community involvement, but it really depends on the matter.

Ms. Laubach recommended reaching out to local homeowners associations and partnering with other communities on similar initiatives.

The members of the Malvern EAC thanked Ms. Laubach for meeting with them.

#### 4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

##### a. Environmental Diet

Helise Bichefsky, DO, stated that the Environmental Diet activity will include the assistance of the Parks & Recreation Committee and will begin on August 1, 2020. Information will be posted on the Borough website and social media.

The EAC discussed prizes for participants. Christopher Bashore stated that funds from the Parks & Recreation Committee's budget could be used to purchase prizes due to the cancellation of several of their events. Zoe Warner, Ph.D., noted that she likes tying any prizes to the environment. The Committee discussed possible prizes, including gift cards to area businesses, metal straws, and/or tree seedlings. Brian Walker stated that he would speak with businesses in the Borough regarding gift cards. Brendan Phillips recommended a gift card and tree seedlings, noting that he would speak with Joe Bones regarding the tree seedlings.

Zoe Warner, Ph.D., noted that prizes should be stated on the flyer for the activity as it may motivate people to get involved. Zoe Warner, Ph.D., suggested metal straws for all participants.

The EAC will review submissions at its next meeting and make a determination on prizes to participants.

##### b. Coordination/summit with other EACs

Brian Walker stated that he will stay in communication with Ms. Laubach from the West Vincent Township EAC regarding coordination with other EACs.

c. Relearning Recycling/General Recycling

Christopher Bashore stated that comments were received from the survey posted on social media and those comments have been provided to the EAC. It was noted that the response was small.

Helise Bichefsky, DO recommended doing a video to be posted on social media to educate the community.

Christopher Bashore stated that he will check with the Chester County Solid Waste Authority and Total Recycling regarding available resources.

Zoe Warner, Ph.D., noted that an FAQ page for the website would still be beneficial. The EAC was in agreement.

d. EAC Survey

A general survey was sent to all EACs, with responses due on July 31, 2020.

e. Storm water education

The EAC discussed preparing educational information related to stormwater management. Christopher Bashore stated that the Borough includes stormwater related articles in the newsletter each quarter. Zoe Warner, Ph.D., noted the importance of educating the community on stormwater as the Borough reaches its build-out stage. The EAC discussed preparing a program for the community that involved observing water runoff and determine where it was occurring. This matter will be discussed further at a future meeting.

5. NEW BUSINESS

a. Spotted Lanternfly – Virtual Program

The EAC discussed expanding the information on the Borough website related to the Spotted Lanternfly. Issues with birds being trapped in tree banding used to catch Spotted Lanternflies was discussed. Penn State University provided information on how to prevent this from occurring and that information will be posted on the Borough website.

b. Social Media

The EAC discussed establishing a Facebook page. Alicia Marziani, Administrative Assistant/Parks & Recreation Coordinator, will establish a Facebook page. Brian Walker

volunteered to run the page. Christopher Bashore stated that a dedicated email address for the EAC will be established.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

Helise Bichefsky, DO asked if there were any comments from the public on items not on the agenda for the meeting.

No public comment was noted.

7. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further discussion, a motion was made by Brendan Phillips, seconded by John Butow, and carried by a vote of 5-0, to adjourn the meeting at 8:41 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Christopher Bashore  
Borough Manager